

## **REMARKS**

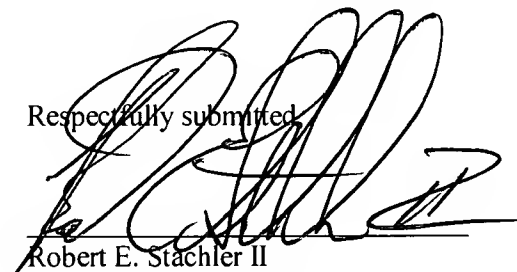
This is a response to the non-final Office Action (Paper No. 6) of October 3, 2003. In this response, claims 4 and 8-10 are cancelled, and claims 1 and 5 are amended. Upon entry of this response, claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11-34 are pending in the application.

With applicants respectfully request that the information disclosure statements submitted on February 7, 2003; March 5, 2002 and November 28, 2001; be considered prior to the next office communication concerning this application. Copies of the PTO 1449 forms have been attached for your reference.

The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 4-6 are allowable subject matter if rewritten an independent form including all the limitations of the base claim. The applicants have upon the direction of the Examiner amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 4. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that a timely notice of allowance be issued in this case.

In view of all of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-3, 5-7 and 11-34 are in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is requested to contact Robert E. Stachler II at (202) 973-2622.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert E. Stachler II  
Registration No. 36,934

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, L.L.P.  
Suite 800  
1850 M Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 973-2622  
RES 034006--002